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### REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-12 are pending.

Figure 21 has been labeled as prior art and a replacement sheet is attached at the end of this paper.

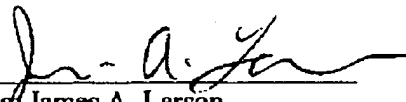
The Abstract has been revised to comply with the 150-word limit and, at the Examiner's suggestion, to eliminate the implied phrase "the present invention".

In view of the above, Applicants request reconsideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN,  
MUELLER & LARSON, P.C.  
P.O. Box 2902  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0902  
Phone: 612-455-3800

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By   
Name: James A. Larson  
Reg. No. 40,443 for  
Name: Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300  
Customer No. 53148